



AWARD WINNER — Irma Wilson, Riviera School teacher, is winner of Freedom Foundation award with model Congress program. Here she and Speaker Robin Rector preside.

## Freedom Foundation Award Will Be Presented Tonight to Riviera School Teacher

A Freedom Foundation award will be presented to Irma Wilson, eighth-grade teacher at Riviera School, at graduation exercises tonight. School Superintendent J. H. Hull will make the presentation.

Announcement of the award was made last week by foundation President Kenneth Wells, whose letter cited Mrs. Wilson for "exceptional work in teaching responsible citizenship and a better understanding of the American way of life."

Mrs. Wilson was cited for her work in setting up classroom model Congresses, in which her students imitate their elders in forming a Senate, House of Representatives, supreme court, and other governmental agencies.

They debate issues and do research on various current problems. Much of the class work is centered round this activity.

All three eighth grades at Riviera School are engaging in this activity this year, as are some other upper grade classes at other Torrance schools.

Although this is Mrs. Wilson's third year in Torrance, it marks the 17th year of her 26-year teaching career in which she has been sponsor of a model Congress.

"I have found that youngsters learn better if they actually can live their lessons," declares Mrs. Wilson. "They get so involved in this activity that they don't consider it homework, although there is lots of extra work involved. This type of program helps children to study their heritage. They learn the value of democratic teaching proced-

ures and methods. All children want to learn and accomplish things if they can, and I think this helps them to set realistic goals. It gives them a chance to read the right things, do their own research, and form their own conclusions."

Mrs. Wilson believes in teaching democracy in the classroom, helping children to govern themselves, but on a classroom level believes in a guided democracy with the teacher as adviser.

The model Congress appeared on television last year, going through a debate. In the classroom, youngsters write to congressmen and senators to get information on current events and do extensive research on many problems of the day.

Sometimes, Mrs. Wilson finds, youngsters differ sharply in their opinions as compared with Congressional actions.

She started her teaching career in Little Rock, Ark., as a high-school math instructor. She later was a principal in Little Rock and in Pulaski County, where she started her model-Congress program.

After the war, she taught in Hanford and San Jose, continuing and expanding the program.

She lives at 809 S. Catalina Ave., Redondo Beach. She has a daughter and grandson living in Inglewood.

The Freedoms Foundation, of Valley Forge, Pa., annually makes award to outstanding teachers throughout the country.



## James E. Crockett School Building Director Quits Torrance System

James E. Crockett, who has supervised the building of more than half of Torrance's schools, Tuesday resigned to become business manager for the Palos Verdes School District. He will depart July 1.

Crockett has been director of new construction for Torrance schools since 1955. During that time, 18 elementary schools, two high schools, and 140 classroom additions have been opened, as well as district office facilities. He has supervised plans for several new Torrance schools, including West High.

Formerly business manager for Mesa, Ariz., schools, Crockett holds a bachelor's degree from Arizona State and a master's degree from USC. He now is working on a doctorate at the latter university.

During his stay here, he has been active in the Torrance Lions Club, serving as bulletin editor several years.

He and his wife, Nelda, have three children and live at 1552 Post Ave.

## Trading Stamps Area Great Nuisance, But Public Won't Have It Any Other Way

Trading stamps, the biggest nuisance in shopping today, are spreading further every day, despite the admitted inconvenience to both merchant and shopper.

The stamps can be found anywhere—in glove compartments stuck on old taffy, at the bottom of handbags, in desk drawers, stuck to frozen foods, and in the vacuum cleaner.

They also can be found at check stands, being handed out with bank accounts, or being traded back and forth among neighbors who want to swap one color for another.

Women's clubs have made a practice of collecting trading stamps for their groups' charity activities. Many take stamps of any brand—including kinds rejected as a 100% nuisance by most customers—and collect them over the months.

They do add up. They do give the illusion of something for nothing—which is the most cherished dream of the American people. Virtually everyone goes to his grave still deluded that somewhere, some time, there must be something for nothing, but there is not.

Few people take the time or trouble to think things through, and with stamps it is no different. Housewives pick up the stickers at the market stand, raise the devil if they don't get them, and think they are free.

If the stores were to add the price of the stamps to the bill, probably every customer would decline them.

The sales pitch could be: "We have a bargain on stamps today. You can get a book worth about \$3.50 for just \$3.50. Take the book to the redemption center, and you can get as high as \$3

worth of merchandise—if they have something you might have use for, and if you want to wait in line to get it. If they are out of the article, they will order it for you."

This is just about what is happening every time. If you pick up \$1 worth of trading stamps, that \$1 has been added to your bill in higher prices. The stores, many of which operate on less than 1% profit, scarcely could afford to give out stamps worth 3% to 4% of the bill.

Yet the old delusion persists—something for nothing. Some stores decline to be sucked into the tide. They advertise "You save only money here."

This hasn't helped them much. Unless a customer depart feeling richer than when he arrived, it's no go. Simply abstaining from taking away from him—or her—has no impact. You gotta give them something—no matter how trivial.

Remember Crackerjacks? The fact is that most stores would like to have done with all stamps so personnel can devote themselves to the business of accurately taking money and making change and selling things.

But it's like a gasoline war. One starts, the others have to compete. No amount of reasoning will spare the merchant. He can tell the customer—nay, show him, in black and white—how he is saving money by NOT taking stamps, but logic is not a useful tool in human relationships.

If the government announced that the cost of food had dropped 3% last week, the whole country would cheer. Yet, if stamps were eliminated, that is about how much the price of food would fall over night.

How many stamps never are redeemed is anyone's guess. It amounts to roughly 25% of the total—this thrown away by purchasers through carelessness or an indifference to pasting the pesky little stickers into books. And who wants to lick a stamp that has lain in the glove compartment a year?

For a long time there were all colors of stamps on the market. It got so the customer would ask what brand they were and by and large reject all but green as too much of a bother.

Now they have boiled down to green and blue. It appears these two will fight it out against all comers. Both are too big to be beaten, and apparently they can't beat each other. Customers will accept either brand, knowing there are redemption centers near by.

As long as the illusion of a giveaway can be maintained, stamps will find eager hands waiting to receive them.

Whether or not the illusion can be abolished—and with it the stamps—is one of the fondest hopes of the merchants who find themselves forced to handle them.

(Next week: What has been done to eliminate stamps. Why legislation appears doomed to failure. How stamps might be wiped out.

## Freeway Fund Provision Hailed

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn today hailed the recent announcement that the state Highway Department has budgeted money for construction of the final link of the Harbor freeway—from 208th St. to Pacific Coast Highway—as the successful end of a long, hard fight. He recalled that in the summer of 1957 the project was in danger of being dragged out many more years because the Highway Commission had not budgeted construction money for the link between 124th and 190th Sts. On learning there were no definite commitments to continue construction of the freeway south, Hahn met with civic leaders and public officials of the Southwest, Gardena Valley, Centinela Valley, and the South Bay area.

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## CONTACTS MEAN MORE DATES FOR YOU!



### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON CONTACT LENSES:

- Q. Do contacts really mean more dates for a girl, or for a man?
- A. You look about twice as good to anybody when you take off those disfiguring spectacles. One ex-mousey girl now has aquamarine contacts that bring out her skin—and oo-la-la!
- Q. Can contacts take years off a person's age?
- A. Of course—because spectacles are a sign of age, especially bifocals. With no spectacles, you give no older age cue, and we can provide you with bifocal contacts!
- Q. Is it true I can really see more with contact lenses?
- A. Yes, this is a scientific fact—you get a 15% wider field of vision when you are not limited by spectacle frames. This means you can actually see 15% more than you see now.
- Q. Can contacts replace thick glasses?
- A. Tiny beautiful contact lenses are more efficient than the thick disfiguring spectacles used to correct extreme nearsightedness.

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## Teenager Held, Three Hurt in Crashes Here

A Long Beach teenager was arrested here Saturday after his car sheared a telephone pole at 174th St. and Delia Ave. shortly after 9 p. m., injuring two passengers.

Both were treated at Harbor General Hospital and released. Police officers said they found alcoholic beverages in the car, driven by Jerry L. Neece, 18.

Frederick F. Lee, 418 Palos Verdes Blvd., was injured Tuesday when his car rammed a vehicle in an alley at 414 Palos Verdes Blvd.

He was treated at Pacific Medical Center, Redondo and Harbor General Hospital.

A 29-year-old woman suffered head and leg injuries Sunday when her car struck a sement light standard at Sartori Ave. and Torrance Blvd.

The victim was Patricia A. Faulkner, 21139 S. Hobart Blvd.

Officers spotted the car about 2:30 a. m. The woman was treated at Harbor Hospital and released.

## Doctor Seaton Getting Nosey

Dr. Roy O. Gilbert, Los Angeles County health officer, is advising women to hang up when and if a "Dr. Seaton of the Health Department" telephones regarding a survey.

He said that his office is receiving numerous inquiries and complaints concerning a Doctor Seaton who telephones

women under the guise that the Health Department is conducting "an underweight and overweight survey of women."

His first questions are comparatively discreet but become more and more suggestive depending on how long his victim is willing to cooperate.

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